

Ebbw Vale Urban District Council

REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1960



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

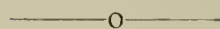
and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1960

Public Health Department,
3 Armoury Hill,
Ebbw Vale.
Tel. Nos. 3259/2284.

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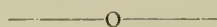
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EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Chairman - Councillor W. D. R. Herbert, J.P.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor B. D. P. Williams.

Members of the Council :

Councillor D. W. H. Bennett, J.P., B.E.M.	Councillor C. Jenkins
Councillor F. E. Bird	Councillor D. R. Lynch
Councillor A. J. Bull	Councillor A. T. Morgan
Councillor B. Caron (Retired)	Councillor C. W. Norton
Councillor J. E. Davies	Councillor E. J. Parsons
Councillor R. Davies, B.A.	Councillor D. Warren
Councillor J. L. Evans	Councillor G. Watkins
Councillor R. Evans	Councillor J. Watkins
Councillor T. J. Evans	Councillor C. C. Weston
Councillor S. Gale	
Councillor Mrs. B. Goldsworthy	

Clerk of the Council :

H. J. Williams, Esq., Solicitor.

Treasurer and Accountant :

B. Bucknall, Esq., F.I.M.T.A., A.C.I.S.

Engineer and Surveyor :

J. M. Davies, Esq., B.Sc., A.M.I.Mun.E.

Architect :

J. L. Thomas, Esq., L.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.

Health Committee :

Chairman — Councillor B. D. P. Williams
Vice-Chairman — Councillor T. J. Evans

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. T. Stephens, M.C., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. Stokes, Esq., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Public Health Inspectors :

J. R. Pulsford, Esq., C.R.S.H. G. Beynon, Esq., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Officer :

D. Herbert, Esq.

Clerical Staff :

T. S. Bowen, Esq. A. E. Foster, Esq. (H.M. Forces)
Miss J. E. Havard.

EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

—O—

Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£476,785
Area of district	...	...	...	...	6,869 acres
Population (Census) 1951	...	...	...	...	29,205
Population (Estimated) 1960	...	...	...	...	28,365
Population (Estimated) 1959	...	...	...	...	28,230
Number of Live Births	...	...	...	...	493
Birth Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	17.38
Number of Still-births	...	...	...	...	15
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	...	...	...	...	25.69
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	337
Death Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	11.88
Number of Infant Deaths (under one year)	...	...	...	...	13
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live Births	...	...	...	...	26.37
Infectious Diseases notified	...	...	...	...	174
Infectious Diseases—Attack Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	6.14
Tuberculosis :—					
Cases notified	...	...	...	...	11
Attack Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	0.39
Death Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	0.04

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR 1960

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS
of the EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1960. It is made in accordance with the memorandum of the Ministry of Health.

The area of the Ebbw Vale Urban District is 6,869 acres, with an estimated population of 28,360, which is the population given by the Registrar-General for calculating purposes. A Census taken in 1951 showed the population to be 29,205. The next Census will be taken in April, 1961.

The number of births, still-births and deaths assigned to this Area are those registered during the year 1960 as adjusted for inward and outward transfers. The returns as submitted by the Registrar-General will be used for calculations, and it should be noted that these figures do not quite correspond with those compiled locally. This is particularly so with regard to the registration of births, as records of inward transfers are not included in returns made by the local Registrar.

DEFINITION

The District Public Health should be concerned with, and receive information about, all health activities as they touch the population, whether the activities are those of General Practitioners, Hospitals, Industrial Medical Services or Local Health Authority. Prevention without sufficient information is nullified.

LIAISON

Today such information is scanty or non-existent. Liaison between Health Authorities, Executive Councils, Hospital Management Committees and Industrial Medical Services is meagre. Divided each appears to flourish; the thought of union, or close co-operation, induces a feeling of faintness in each.

As an example, neither the Industrial Medical Service, the General Practitioner Service nor the Public Health Department is informed by the Hospital Management Committee of the total and nature of attendances and admissions. The local Registrar of Births and Deaths informs the Public Health Department weekly of deaths occurring in the District. The local Hospital Management Committee fails to acquaint the Public Health Department with the numbers of patients entering Hospital with neoplasms, diabetes, strokes, heart disease, bronchitis, gastro-duodenal ulceration, road accidents, home accidents, etc. The Public Health Department is kept unaware of the amount of sickness in the district apart from infectious diseases; statutory notification of part of the latter is made by Practitioners, and, when the working population is unduly affected, by the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance.

The Minister preaches closer liaisons, in practice little is done.

ACCOMMODATION

The housing of the Public Health Department is, in part, inadequate and out of date. It is expected that this may soon be remedied.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The main sources of pollution are domestic fires, industrial railway engines, the by-product plant, basic slag plant, and the L.D. process plant. Office graphs show little improvement over the last few years.

Housing Authorities, when permitted, should equip their new houses with appliances using smokeless fuel. Industrial concerns should give increasing attention to reducing their share of the guilt of atmospheric pollution. Whilst providing employment, they must not be allowed to poison the atmosphere.

Ebbw Vale has been described to me as the "smokehole of South Wales". At times I see no reason to quarrel with that description. One must add that there is a certain colour variation in the smoke emitted.

CANCER

This remains an enigma. Little advance in knowledge, and none in successful treatment, can be recorded for 1960. It is felt that the solution to the mystery will prove to be simple.

CORONARY DISEASE

This is a killer of man at the height of his economic and intellectual peak. Some of its apparent or real increase is due to better certification. It is hoped that 'coronary disease' does not become a rag bag into which uncertainly-caused deaths may be thrust. The cause of the disease will prove, one feels, simple, and prevention, based upon rules of health, easy.

COUNTY SERVICES

The District Nursing, Health Visiting, District Midwifery, and above all the Home Help Service, continue to flourish. The Night-attendant Service, the Geriatric Service, Problem Family Service, Medical Comforts and Appliances Scheme, Convalescent Treatment Scheme, Care of Premature Infants' Service, Chiropody Financial Support, Mental Health Service, etc, continue to operate.

The older members of the population will increase in number, necessitating an expansion of such Services as the Night-Attendant, Home Nursing, Geriatric and Health Visiting, and Part III Accommodation. Loneliness needs mitigation as much as does physical disability.

The problem of long continued Home Help Service to certain Problem Families is unsolved. The permanent provision of unpaid domestic help seems to be accepted. This can be neither just to the tax payer nor wise.

Economic reasons apart there is need for expansion of the scheme for the provision of convalescent treatment. Ideally this should be expanded into a scheme for the provision of Holiday Homes for the elderly and old non-workers of either sex. Entry would then be based on income level and not upon health grounds.

Stability of the brain controls the attitude of man towards his fellows as does no other organ in the body. It is therefore more important than ever that the attitude towards the community of the mentally ill be firmly established before taking their place in Society again, after a stay in hospital.

In some quarters, the present importance and continued existence of Local Health Authorities' Ante-Natal and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics is questioned. These Clinics would seem still to satisfy a need which cannot be fulfilled otherwise. It has been suggested that the same Doctor should carry out ante-natal examinations and be in attendance at the confinement. Ideally this is a good thing but, providing liaison is close between the Ante-Natal Clinic and the Practitioner, the disadvantage of separate medical attention during pregnancy and confinement is not great. Using the same argument the Practitioner who attends an appendicitis should also take it out. Specialisation does lead to greater skill and knowledge. The same logic applies to the conduct of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. General Practitioners assert they are overworked; there is little sense in adding unnecessarily to their burdens. Some of them haven't the time, the inclination or wide enough knowledge, to conduct these Clinics satisfactorily.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The continued necessity for this Service has been criticised and the same kind of argument employed. General Practitioners can **not** satisfactorily act as

permanent Staff. However, additional attention to that already given might be afforded to the officially Handicapped Pupils and to the many with defects.

Much of the accommodation in Schools afforded for the inspectoral work of School Medical Staff is ill equipped, and was never of a satisfactory standard.

ENTERTAINMENTS

The provision of cultural amenities and such items as a satisfactory swimming pool is of importance in an old industrial area. They are of great psychological value to some, although the result of finding the money may have a detrimental psychological effect upon others. The work of the Parks Department in beautifying and brightening the town is to be commended.

FOOD AND DRUGS

The County Council sample items to ascertain the quality and proportion of their constituents. The District Authority investigates suspected or known cases of deteriorated foods. Shop keepers find it a wise policy to call in this Authority's Inspectors in such an event. This Council sends samples of ice-cream, some made locally, to the Public Health Laboratory monthly during the season. From the results returned, and having regard to the ever increasing consumption, this is an important function.

The prevalence of Food Poisoning (i.e. infection by germs of food stuffs) suggests that personal hygiene somewhere along the line from manufacturer, distributor, retailer, and consumer is defective. Dysentery and Food Poisoning are rampant throughout the country.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Officially this is a County Council responsibility. It is apt to be looked upon as a subject of secondary importance. How much more dramatic, it would seem, to have to undergo a complicated operation, removing some of one's flesh and involving brilliant surgical techniques, than it is to prevent oneself reaching that state ! How much easier it would appear to have one's lung removed by clever thoracic surgery, than it is to give up smoking !

HOSPITALS

These tend to be sited so as to serve larger areas. Nasser or Kassim by cutting off petrol supplies, could reduce visiting, except on foot or by bicycle, to nil, and hinder the ambulance service.

HOUSING

The following tables, referring to 1959, will be of interest and point to the energetic and devoted attention given by this Council and its Departments to

the problem of housing or rehousing the population. This trend follows that of 1958. It is to be hoped that similar future efforts be not frustrated by factors outside the control of the Council.

Demolition of sub-standard dwellings should mean clearance to ground level. In some cases this is not so—sites being left untidy and dangerous.

The clearance of sub-standard dwellings and the giving of Improvement Grants are likely to concern the Council for some time to come, if houses having bathrooms, internal w.c.'s., hot water systems, etc., are to be afforded to all. Many houses do not possess these essentials.

INDUSTRIES

For employment Ebbw Vale depends for the major part upon the local Steelworks, as do to a lesser degree Tredegar and other nearby Heads of the Valleys towns. Since unemployment and under-employment create complicated problems of social unhappiness and deprivation, it is hoped that the many local powerful bodies concerned with the communities' welfare will continue to keep a close eye upon the situation with a view to action if necessary re any development which may create such conditions.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases, such as acute poliomyelitis, typhoid, fever, diphtheria, smallpox, which are still of dread import, mainly because of their past high mortality, were not noted to us in 1960. All can be prevented or ameliorated by prior protective measures.

Dysentery, though not as prevalent as in 1959, was still present. Its spread is considered to be facilitated by defects in the techniques of personal hygiene, mainly in handwashing after the use of the toilet. In this connection the prevalent antiquated school toilets with their non-incorporation of washing facilities, is to be deplored. The same criticism is to be made of those houses where the toilet is situated some distance away from handwashing facilities. No doubt lack of finance is the main obstacle to the provision of modern toilets which include handwashing facilities.

The national downward trend of tuberculosis was also noted in Ebbw Vale. Although preventive measures, such as B.C.G. vaccination and the activities of the Public Health Department, have helped considerably, it is believed that a large part of the present comparatively happy situation is due to successful treatment. This does not cancel the principle that prevention is better than cure.

The specific protective measures of immunisation deserve wider support by parents. Smallpox prevention is in a rather different category. Whether it is better to construct a ring of vaccinated contacts around an imported smallpox case or whether it is wiser to attempt to vaccinate the majority of the population, is a moot point. Nowadays there are deaths, although few, from smallpox vaccination and its complications, in years when death from smallpox itself is nil.

HOUSING ACTS

Details of Grants and Loans, 1959

TABLE 1

District	Improvement Grants				Improvement Loans		RENT ACT 1957 No. of C'tificates of Dis- repair issued 1959
	No. of Standard Improve- ment Grants	No. of other Improve- ment Grants	Amount of Standard Improve- ment Grants £	Amount of other Improve- ment Grants £	No. of Improve- ment Loans	Amount of Improve- ment Loans £	
URBAN							
Abercarn ...	9	17	1,095	4,634	9	2,535	6
Abergavenny ...	—	21	—	3,637	2	257	4
Abertillery ...	—	14	—	4,730	11	2,764	4
Bedwas & Machen ...	—	7	—	1,347	—	—	—
Bedwellty ...	2	—	140	—	2	290	3
Blaenavon ...	2	8	224	1,842	—	—	1
Caerleon ...	1	5	155	1,354	2	665	—
Chepstow ...	—	—	—	—	1	600	2
Cwmbran ...	—	40	—	6,217	21	4,455	5
Ebbw Vale ...	1	94	40	17,442	50	9,785	5
Monmouth ...	8	15	1,045	4,108	6	1,160	2
Mynyddislwyn ...	1	4	73	462	—	—	2
Nantyglo & Blaina ...	—	—	—	—	18	3,943	3
Pontypool ...	2	28	208	4,495	4	758	4
Rhymney ...	1	14	155	2,134	—	—	—
Risca ...	—	22	—	3,617	7	1,790	—
Tredegar ...	2	23	131	6,434	9	3,092	—
Usk ...	—	1	—	225	—	—	—
RURAL							
Abergavenny ...	3	27	155	8,319	1	280	—
Chepstow ...	—	16	—	3,786	1	594	—
Magor & St. Mellons ...	1	37	113	11,295	6	3,540	—
Monmouth ...	5	6	652	1,315	—	—	1
Pontypool ...	—	15	—	3,953	2	350	—
Totals ...	38	414	4,186	91,346	152	36,858	42

HOUSING

TABLE 2

DISTRICT	No. of Separate Dwellings owned by Local Authority on 31.12.59		No. of Separate Dwellings completed during 1959		
	Tempor-ary	Perm-anent	By Local A'thority	By P'vate Ent'prise	Total
URBAN					
Abercarn ...	50	1,492	114	20	134
Abergavenny ...	50	983	34	10	44
Abertillery ...	100	737	—	4	4
Bedwas & Machen ...	50	978	32	6	38
Bedwellty ...	100	1,998	140	2	142
Blaenavon ...	50	384	—	2	2
Caerleon ...	49	227	5	7	12
Chepstow ...	—	586	51	3	54
Cwmbran ...	106	1,601	49	7	56
Ebbw Vale ...	—	2,247	239	14	253
Monmouth ...	50	470	—	14	14
Mynyddislwyn ...	99	1,211	6	10	16
Nantyglo & Blaina ...	49	731	26	2	28
Pontypool ...	300	3,376	82	25	107
Rhymney ...	49	467	—	—	—
Risca ...	46	1,225	—	3	3
Tredegar ...	87	1,430	6	17	23
Usk ...	—	52	—	5	5
RURAL					
Abergavenny ...	10	391	14	30	44
Chepstow ...	—	849	37	18	55
Magor & St. Mellons ...	71	1,222	27	—	27
Monmouth ...	—	204	—	6	6
Pontypool ...	—	168	—	91	91
Totals ...	1,316	23,029	862	296	1,158

HOUSING UNDER CWMBRAN DEV. CORP'TION

In the U.D.	Total No. of Dwellings completed by 31.12.59 :		Completed during 1959 :	In the Pontypool R.D. Area	Total No. of Dwellings completed by 31.12.59 :		Completed during 1959 :	
Cwmbran Area	Houses, 1,687; Flats, 195.		171.		Houses, 1,794; Flats, 164.		283.	
					Under construction at 31.12.59			
Under construction at 31.12.59 :					Houses :	Flats :		
1 Bedroom	6	1 Bedroom	29		1 Bedrm.	—	1 Bedrm.	2
2 "	59	2 "	17		2 "	32	2 "	3
3 "	148	3 "	—		3 ' ,	137	2 "	—
4 "	13				4 "	17		

LABORATORY SERVICES

Tribute must be paid to the efficiency and celerity of the Public Health Laboratory Service, particularly during the time of a prolonged epidemic of dysentery-like illness.

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE, Etc.

Deliberate destruction of public conveniences' fittings still occurs.

Tipping of public refuse at Cwm and Manmoel Road, Sirhowy, is well controlled, although seagulls and sheep invade the former, and pigs, horses and sheep the latter in search of organic refuse—a deplorable but apparently unavoidable situation.

Too many people are not yet litter conscious. The flesh of children is injured by broken glass scattered in the lanes and on the moors, whilst their morals can't be improved by the littered contraceptives.

As usual the danger of straying sheep and horses remains with us. In spite of the large numbers killed on the roads the sheep population remains as numerous.

VERMIN

The work of the Rodent Officer increased in 1960, mainly due to complaints of rat or mouse infestation.

WATER SUPPLY

The reserve of water for domestic purposes is believed to be, in normal circumstances, adequate. The situation attained in 1959, when consideration was given to augmenting the public supply by water drawn from old underground workings, did not obtain in 1960.

The Forestry Commission's plan to plant the Reservoir Catchment area is excellent.

POPULATION

TABLE 3.

Estimated Mid-year Population			Census		
Year					
1956	...	28,350			
1957	...	28,350	1931	...	31,695
1958	...	28,320			
1959	...	28,230	1951	...	29,205
1960	...	28,360			

BIRTHS

The total number of births registered locally during 1960 was 511—259 males and 252 females; 10 males and 6 females being illegitimate. Of this number, however, 137 children (75 males and 62 females, including 2 illegitimate females) were born to persons not normally resident within the district, thus leaving a total of 374 'local' births—184 males and 190 females.

The figures returned by the Registrar-General were 247 males and 246 females (16 males and 8 females being illegitimate), thus making a total of 493—119 more than the local returns. This difference is due primarily to the fact that records of inward transfers are not received by this Department.

In 1960 the general birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 17.38; the male birth rate was 8.71 and the female 8.67 per 1,000 inhabitants, whilst in 1959 these rates were 9.39 and 7.90 respectively. The illegitimate live births expressed as a percentage of the total live births was 4.87%. In 1959 this figure was 3.28%.

The number of still-births was 13, and the still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 25.69. In 1959 this figure was 31.74.

In the following table the number of births and the birth rate per 1,000 of the population for each of the past five years are compared with the figures given for the County of Monmouth and England and Wales. The local rates have been adjusted by use of the given comparability factor for the appropriate year.

TABLE 4

Year	No. of Births	Birth rates per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1956	446	16.67	16.76	15.70
1957	454	16.81	17.07	16.10
1958	461	17.09	17.04	16.40
1959	488	18.06	16.85	16.50
1960	493	18.25	17.29	17.10

The table given below shows the total number of 'domiciliary' and 'maternity home' births registered in the district during the five year period 1956-1960. These figures are obtained from local returns.

TABLE 5

	1960				1959				1958				1957				1956			
	Born at :		Rookery Maternity Home		Born at :		Rookery Maternity Home		Born at :		Rookery Maternity Home		Born at :		Rookery Maternity Home		Born at :		Rookery Maternity Home	
Total births regist'd	149	362	162	340	120	320	138	313	151	294										
Outward transfers	7	130	3	118	4	111	6	97	4	97										
Local	142	232	159	222	116	209	132	216	147	197										

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1960

—::—

TABLE 6

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of deaths (under one year)	...	13	18	7	21	19
Number of births	... ..	493	488	461	454	446
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	26.37	36.89	15.18	46.26	42.60
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	23.45	36.02			
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	83.33	62.50			
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks) per 1,000 live births	...	20.28	25.79	15.18		
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 live births	...	18.25	18.44			
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined) per 1,000 total live and still-births	...	43.48	49.60			
Number of still-births	... ..	13	16	17	23	17
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	... ..	25.69	31.74	35.56	48.22	36.72
Still-birth rate per 1,000 population	...	0.46	0.57	0.60	0.81	0.60

There were 13 deaths among infants under one year, and the general total from all causes in all age groups was 337, so 3.86 per cent. of the deaths of the population occurred in children under one year of age. In 1959 this figure was 5.47%. Eleven of the 13 deaths occurred under the age of one month.

In 1959 seven of the infant deaths resulted from prematurity. In 1960 there were two such deaths. Prematurity is a condition not a disease. This is not as widely recognised as it might be. The causes of the condition, prematurity (which means simply being born before the estimated time), are in many instances unknown. Much research is necessary to discover the causes of prematurity and congenital malformations.

The relationship between maternal viral infection during pregnancy and foetal malformation and/or death is not yet completely known.

Infants, in common with other age groups, are peculiarly susceptible to infections of the respiratory tract in this country.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

TABLE 7

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total under 1 yr	Under 1 day	1 — 7 days	7 — 14 days	14 — 21 days	21 — 28 days	Total under one month	1 — 3 mths.	3 — 6 mths.	6 — 9 mths.	9 — 12 mths.	Total 1 Mth. and over
1. Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Syphilitic disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Acute poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Cancer (malignant disease) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Heart disease ...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10. Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Pneumonia (all forms) ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
12. Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Other respiratory diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Congenital malformations ...	1	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1
15. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
16. Accidents ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Atelectasis ...	1	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
18. Prematurity ...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
19. Erythroblastosis foetalis or incompatibility of parents' blood group ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. All other causes (e.g. cerebral haemorrhage) ...	3	2	5	3	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
	9	4	13	6	4	1	...	...	11	...	1	1	...	2

DEATHS

The returns of deaths as received from the local Registrar showed the total number of deaths occurring in the Ebbw Vale Urban Area during 1960, to be 295, but of this number 31 were persons normally resident elsewhere—outward transferable deaths—thus the number of residents who died within the area was 264—149 males and 115 females. The inward transferable deaths totalled 73—46 males and 27 females—thus the total number of deaths from all causes assigned to this area was 337—195 males and 142 females. The figures supplied by the Registrar General were 194 males and 143 females.

The death rate per 1,000 of the population for the year 1960 was 11.88. The male death rate being 6.84 and the female 5.04. In 1959 these rates were 6.84 and 4.82 respectively.

In the following table the death rate per thousand of the population for the past five years are compared with those for the County of Monmouth and England and Wales. The local rates have been adjusted by the use of the comparability factor for the appropriate year.

TABLE 8

Year	No. of Deaths	Death rate per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1956 ...	340	14.75	11.96	11.70
1957 ...	345	14.96	11.96	11.50
1958 ...	343	14.91	11.73	11.70
1959 ...	329	14.33	11.75	11.60
1960 ...	337	14.61	13.20	11.50

CAUSES OF DEATH
IN THE EBBW VALE DISTRICT, 1960
Returns of the Registrar-General

TABLE 9

			Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	... ..	—	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	... ..	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	... ..	1	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	... ..	—	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	... ..	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	... ..	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	... ..	—	—	—
8.	Measles	... ..	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	... ..	—	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	... ..	8	6	14
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	... ..	9	—	9
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	... ..	—	7	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	... ..	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	... ..	13	12	25
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	... ..	—	1	1
16.	Diabetes	... ..	—	4	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	... ..	27	16	43
18.	Coronary disease, angina	... ..	47	24	71
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	... ..	4	5	9
20.	Other heart disease	... ..	13	18	31
21.	Other circulatory disease	... ..	5	3	8
22.	Influenza	... ..	1	1	2
23.	Pneumonia	... ..	6	4	10
24.	Bronchitis	... ..	25	8	33
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	... ..	3	1	4
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	... ..	2	2	4
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	... ..	1	1	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	... ..	1	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	... ..	3	—	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	... ..	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	... ..	2	1	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	... ..	13	21	34
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	... ..	5	—	5
34.	All other accidents	... ..	5	4	9
36.	Homicide and operations of war	... ..	—	—	—
Totals ...			194	143	337

During the year there was one death from Leukaemia. In 1959 there was one death, and in 1958 there were three deaths. The period involved is too short, the numbers concerned too small to enable any conclusion to be arrived at regarding the incidence of this disease. Speculation exists as to a possible association between Leukaemia and radiation. Time will clarify the situation, with the aid of facts drawn from a national survey over a sufficiently long period.

The disease classified as Bronchitis needs more research, both as to its true incidence, causative factors, prevention and treatment. Its relation to air pollution by industrial, vehicular and domestic sources is well known. Much remains to be done in practice, as opposed to 'on paper', to reduce or abolish such sources of poisoning the air. In my opinion Police activities re warning or prosecution should be increased in the matter of air pollution by the emission of noxious fumes from road vehicles.

Accidents exerted a toll of 14 lives. Again, education of the public by all available means, local and national, at home and in the school, is essential to reduce the number. In the matter of road accidents, I should like to see all removable distractions to careful driving, such as hoardings at the dangerous bend at Beaufort Bridge, taken away.

As will be noted in Table 9, diseases of the Heart and Blood vessels were again responsible for the largest number of deaths, followed by those due to Cancers, and then those due to diseases of the Respiratory System. There were four deaths attributed to Diabetes. Research has established that there are people in the community, suffering from vague ill-health, who are really diabetic and who would respond to treatment. An examination of the urine, where health is below par, would be helpful.

The years when many deaths, usually from infectious diseases, occurred in young children and infants, appear to have gone; so much so that, like hospital tuberculosis beds, other uses are being found in some hospitals for beds previously occupied by sick children. As in certain other Western countries, e.g. United States of America, a larger number of Obese children are being noted—usually the result of overeating.

CAUSES OF DEATH
IN THE EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT, 1960
Local Returns (including Inward Transferable Deaths)

TABLE 10

Cause of Death	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 wks. to 1 year	1 — 5 years	5 — 15 years	15—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	Over 75 years
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
2. Tuberculosis, other forms ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
4. Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	8	6	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	2	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	2	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	13	12	25	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	9	7	7
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Diabetes ...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	27	16	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	9	15	16
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	47	24	71	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	22	21	21
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	4	5	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7
20. Other heart disease ...	13	18	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	6	18
21. Other circulatory disease ...	5	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
22. Influenza ...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
23. Pneumonia ...	6	4	10	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5
24. Bronchitis ...	25	8	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	6	8	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach, duodenum ...	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations ...	2	1	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	14	20	34	7	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	4	4	14
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	5	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
34. All other accidents ...	5	4	9	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	5
35. Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	195	142	337	10	3	...	4	1	4	11	23	70	80	131

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1960

Local Returns (including Inward Transferable Deaths) Ward Distribution.

TABLE 11

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	1	...	...	...	...
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	2	3	3	2	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	2	...	...	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	5	...	...	...	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	...	...	...	...	...
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	2	7	7	3	3
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1
16. Diabetes	1	...	...	2	...	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	6	7	6	11	7
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	5	14	8	16	13
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	5	...	4
20. Other heart disease	5	5	4	6	6	5
21. Other circulatory disease	1	1	2	2	1	1
22. Influenza	1	...	...	...	...	1
23. Pneumonia	1	3	1	1	3	1
24. Bronchitis	8	1	9	8	3	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	...	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach, duodenum	2	...	...	...	...	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	...	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	...	...	...	...
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	...	...	...	...	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations	2	...	...	1	...	...
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	3	9	6	4	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	...	1	2	1	...
34. All other accidents	1	3	2	1	2	...
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Homicide and operations of war...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	69	35	61	60	55	57

MONTHLY REGISTRATION OF DEATHS, 1960. Local Returns.

TABLE 12

Month	Total Registered Deaths		Outward Transfers		Transfers Inward		Total 'Local' Deaths		Quarterly Totals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
January	20	10	3	1	4	3	21	12	33
February	16	13	1	—	9	2	24	15	90
March	7	9	1	—	1	2	7	11	18
April	26	8	4	—	2	2	24	10	34
May	13	13	2	2	5	3	16	14	81
June	10	5	4	—	3	3	9	8	17
July	21	7	2	1	4	1	23	7	30
August	9	9	—	1	6	—	15	8	85
September	14	12	—	1	2	5	16	16	32
October	14	11	2	1	5	4	17	14	31
November	11	13	1	1	2	1	12	13	81
December	11	13	3	—	3	1	11	14	25
	172	123	23	8	46	27	195	142	337

The figures for the total 'local' deaths are found by using the formula — 'local' deaths = Total — Outward + Inward Transfers.

CANCER

During the past five years, 1956 to 1960, the number of deaths, and death rates per 1,000 of the population, from cancer show as follows :—

Year		No. of deaths	Death rate	% of total deaths
1956	...	49	1.73	14.41
1957	...	40	1.41	11.49
1958	...	54	1.91	15.74
1959	...	54	1.91	16.41
1960	...	56	1.97	16.62

There were five deaths from malignant growths in the age group birth to 44 years.

CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA

Year		No. of deaths	Death rate	% of total deaths
1956	...	67	3.36	19.77
1957	...	64	2.26	18.55
1958	...	61	2.15	17.78
1959	...	52	1.84	15.80
1960	...	71	2.50	21.07

It is believed that the incidence of coronary diseases of the heart is increasing. How much of this apparent increase is a real one, and how much is due to fashion in diagnosis, only a post mortem, carried out by a competent pathologist, would determine.

The causative factors of coronary disease are unknown although there is much speculation. Probably over-eating, over-smoking, over-working, indeed over-living, in one way or another will prove to be chiefly concerned. It must be remembered that sudden death can result from congenital heart disease, old rheumatic heart disease, old scarlatina heart disease, etc.

As has been previously noted, diseases of the heart and blood vessels account for by far the largest number of deaths occurring in the area during 1960.

COUNTY STATISTICS

TABLE 13

The figures below apply to the County of Monmouth, and, for purposes of comparison, the local rates are also shown.

				County of Monmouth	Ebbw Vale
Number of live births	...	...	...	5,727	493
Live birth-rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	17.29	18.25
Illegitimate live-births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	3.1	4.87
Number of still-births	...	...	...	160	13
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births	...	...	...	27.2	25.69
Total number of live and still-births	...	...	...	8,887	506
Total number of infant deaths (under 1 year of age)	...	...	...	146	13
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	25.5	26.37
Mortality rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	25.4	23.45
Mortality rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	28.0	83.33
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first 4 weeks)	...	...	...	17.6	20.28
Early neo-natal Mortality per 1,000 live births (under 1 week)	...	...	...	15.2	18.25
Perinatal Mortality (still-births and deaths of infants under 1 week of age) per 1,000 total live and still-births	...	...	...	42.0	43.48
Number of maternal deaths (including abortions)	...	...	...	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	...	...	...	—	—
Still-birth rate for 1,000 population	...	...	...	0.48	0.46
Total death rate per 1,000 population, crude	...	...	...	11.59	11.88
Total death rate per 1,000 population, adjusted	...	...	...	13.20	14.61
Total number of deaths	...	...	...	3,837	337

Comparability Factors — Ebbw Vale

Births	...	1.05		Deaths		1.23
Ebbw Vale						
Live-births						
				M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	...	247	246	493
Legitimate	...	...	...	231	238	469
Illegitimate	...	...	...	16	8	24
Still-births						
Total	...	...	...	10	3	13
Legitimate	...	...	...	8	3	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	—	2

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

Total	...	...	...	9	4	13
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	4	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	—	2

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

Total	...	...	...	6	4	10
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	4	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

Total	...	...	...	5	4	9
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	4	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 174 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, giving an attack rate per thousand of the population of 6.14.

Although venereal disease is not notifiable to this Authority, responsible medical authorities affirm that it is on the increase in England and Wales. This may be due to lower standards of personal chastity and morality, and the introduction of the disease by immigrants.

TABLE 14—INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Year	No. of cases notified	Attack rate per 1,000
1956	271	9.59
1957	530	18.69
1958	472	16.66
1959	671	23.77
1960	174	6.14

The highest attack rate during the past five years was in 1959, and this was due to the measles, dysentery and pneumonia cases notified—measles 341, dysentery 186 and pneumonia 52. In 1960, dysentery, food poisoning and whooping cough accounted for the largest number of infectious diseases notified.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — MORTALITY

During the year there were no deaths, tuberculosis excepted, from infectious diseases.

In the tabular statement, Table 15, are shown the cases notified, and the case rate per 1,000 of the population for each of the notifiable diseases.

TABLE 15

Disease				No. of Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	6	0.21
Pneumonia	...	...	...	14	0.49
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	8	0.28
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	...	3	0.11
Measles	...	...	...	2	0.07
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	0.07
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	1	0.04
Whooping cough	...	...	...	27	0.95
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	29	1.02
Dysentery	...	...	...	82	2.89

The incidence of whooping cough, a most distressing complaint, fluctuates from year to year. It causes more damage to the respiratory system than is perhaps appreciated by most. Whooping cough can, however, be ameliorated or prevented by immunisation with the appropriate vaccine, which is now offered at infant welfare centres, and by general practitioners.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

No cases of Diphtheria were notified in this area during the year.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was 267, of which 216 were under the age of five years. This protection may be obtained free of cost at Infant Welfare Centres, surgeries of the Medical practitioners, and at this Office.

As with smallpox vaccinations, so with diphtheria immunisation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to persuade the public of the value and continuing necessity of these procedures. Five deaths from diphtheria occurred in the county during 1960, as will be seen in Table 18, and it is emphasised to parents that the remarkable decline in the incidence and mortality of the disease can only be maintained if their children are given the protection of immunisation.

TABLE 16

Diphtheria immunisation carried out during the past five years.

YEAR	...	...	...	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Children under 5 years	...			216	198	138	242	266
5—14 years	...	...	...	51	4	6	6	2
				267	202	144	248	168

Newspaper reference to the small diphtheria outbreaks caused some increase in diphtheria immunisation over the years 1957-1959.

Total number of Children who had completed a Full Course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1960, i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1946.

TABLE 17

Age at 31.12.60 i.e. Born in year	Under														Total under 15 yrs.
	1 1960	2 1959	3 1958	4 1957	5 1956	6 1955	7 1954	8 1953	9 1952	10 1951	11 1950	12 1949	13 1948	14 1947	15 1946
Last complete course of injections (whether pri- mary or booster)															
A. 1956—1960 ...	30	128	213	217	249	195	86	33	26	4	10	6	3	3	—
B. 1955 or earlier ...	—	—	—	—	—	28	131	167	197	197	192	277	440	495	494
	30	128	213	217	249	223	217	200	223	201	202	283	443	498	494
TOTALS ...			837				1064					1920			
			0—4 years				5—9 years					10—14 years			

The following table is shown to illustrate more completely the downward trend of cases notified, and deaths from Diphtheria throughout England and Wales. The figures given are for deaths and notifications (corrected) since 1946; those shown in parenthesis are for Wales alone.

TABLE 18

England and Wales 1946—1960					
Year		Deaths		Corrected Notifications	
1946	...	472	(41)	11,986	(1,028)
1947	...	244	(19)	5,069	(441)
1948	...	156	(7)	3,575	(190)
1949	...	84	(1)	1,890	(102)
1950	...	49	(Nil)	962	(62)
1951	...	33	(1)	664	(53)
1952	...	32	(3)	376	(39)
1953	...	23	(Nil)	266	(17)
1954	...	9	(Nil)	173	(7)
1955	...	3	(Nil)	155	(1)
1956	...	8	(Nil)	51	(2)
1957	...	6	(Nil)	37	(1)
1958	...	8	(Nil)	78	(Nil)
1959	...	—	(Nil)	103	(Nil)
1960	...	5	(Nil)	53	(Nil)

WHOOPING COUGH

During the year 27 cases of whooping cough were notified, and all but one were under ten years of age. The table below shows the number of children, in various age groups, who were immunised against whooping cough in 1958, 1959 and 1960.

TABLE 19

				AGE		
				at date of final injection		
				0—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	Total
Number of children who completed a primary course of immunisation against Whooping cough (singly or in combination) during the year :—						
(a)	1958	...	...	239	3	242
(b)	1959	...	...	157	6	163
(c)	1960	...	...	256	10	266

SMALLPOX

No cases of smallpox were notified during the year.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Vaccination against smallpox is not compulsory, but this treatment is given free of cost at infant welfare centres, surgeries of the medical practitioners, and at this office.

Whilst considering the question of vaccinating children under the age of two years, it must be remembered (i) that some countries require vaccination of immigrants before admission, and (ii) that members of H.M. Forces are liable to be posted to areas where smallpox is endemic. In this connection it is known that the rare complication of vaccination, e.g. post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis, are much more likely to occur in those persons vaccinated for the first time after the age of two years.

I give below, in specified age groups, the number of persons primarily vaccinated or re-vaccinated during the past twelve months. No cases of generalised vaccinia or post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis occurred during the year, and there were no deaths from other complications of vaccination.

TABLE 20

Smallpox vaccinations carried out during the years 1956-1960

Year	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Primary :—					
Under 1 year	32	37	106	113	114
1—4 years	24	43	7	14	4
5—14 years	1	5	6	2	3
15 years & over	9	23	26	12	18
Re-vaccinations	15	21	36	16	18
	81	129	181	157	157

POLIOMYELITIS

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. I give below the notifications of poliomyelitis received during each of the past five years.

			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Notifications	—	—	1	4	—

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The supply of vaccine is now ample. In my opinion, further time must elapse before the effect of vaccination upon the incidence of poliomyelitis can finally be determined. Since, however, there is no specific drug or preparation to deal with the established disease, any harmless preventative method must be adopted. Doubtless, vaccination facilities should be, and will be, offered to older age groups.

The question of offering a fourth (booster) dose is under consideration, so is the alternative method of protection by an oral vaccine, which indeed has already been used on a large scale in Russia.

The following figures show the number of injections given during the period 1st January, 1960, to 31st December, 1960.

Adults	...	...	...	2,442
Children	...	...	...	1,770
Total number of injections	...	...	...	<hr/>4,212 <hr/>

Total number of injection given at any time up to the			
31st December, 1960	...	...	21,378

DYSENTERY

Dysentery continued to occur. In these days of mass production, much manipulation, the long distances involved in the transport of foodstuffs, and the low hygienic standards of some shop and other distributors and home consumers, the dysenteries present an ever present threat to the public health. With food poisoning they are among the most prominent, if not the most prevalent, diseases confronting the Public Health Service today.

The staff of this Public Health Department, in the course of their duties, disseminate much useful knowledge regarding hygiene, personal and otherwise.

I give below details of laboratory examination of faecal specimens submitted in respect of the cases of dysentery notified during the year.

Faecal specimens taken	...	...	...	347
Sonnei bacilli isolated	...	...	...	25
No relevant pathogen isolated	...	...	...	309
Other organisms of the enteric, salmonella and dysentery groups isolated	...	...	...	13

TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID FEVER

No cases of typhoid or paratyphoid fever were notified during 1960.

FOOD POISONING

Twenty-nine cases of food poisoning were notified during 1960. In the thirteen confirmed cases the agents were found to be *Salmonella typhimurium* in eleven cases, and *Salmonella heidelberg* in two cases, but the sources of infection, although extensive enquiries were pursued, were not discovered, which is often the situation.

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Cases notified	29	1	1	25	0

A reduction in the incidence of dysenteries, food poisoning, poliomyelitis, infective hepatitis, etc., can only be attained by the co-operation of everyone, based upon education in matters of personal hygiene, education which should begin in the home and in the school, places where facilities such as baths, wash basins, hot water, towelling, etc., should be present.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, eleven cases of tuberculosis were notified—eight respiratory and three non-respiratory. There was one death from respiratory tuberculosis, and it is interesting to note that the number of cases notified (eleven), and the number of deaths (one), are the lowest ever, insofar as this District is concerned.

Each case notified is visited by the Medical Officer of Health and Health Visitor, and when disinfection is required, by the Public Health Inspector. A report upon environmental conditions is sent to the Area Chest Physician and the County Medical Officer. The Welfare facilities, e.g. occupational therapy, provided by the Local Health Authority, and the financial assistance, etc., which may be provided by the National Assistance Board, are brought to the attention of the patients. This Authority, in addition, offers rehousing where necessary.

Arrangements are made for all contacts to be seen at the Chest Clinic for skin tests, X-rays, and possibly B.C.G. vaccination.

Heaf skin testing for tuberculosis was carried out in the 'under fives' at the Child Welfare Centres and at this office. Children of school age were offered the same facility, and all skin-test positives were X-rayed and passed into the care of the Chest Physician. Skin test negatives, in the age group thirteen years and over, were offered B.C.G. vaccination.

There is some suggestion that the wonder anti-tuberculosis drugs may be losing something of their efficiency; that is to say, the germ may be becoming less sensitive, i.e. not so easily killed by the drugs. It is important as ever, therefore, that all other measures, particularly preventative, should be faithfully carried out.

Today Chest Surgery is important in selected cases of the disease. The whole or parts of an affected lung can be removed with a successful dexterity unknown until comparatively recently. However successful, surgery and 'miraculous' drugs are not substitutes for Preventive Medicine.

Of the eleven cases notified this year, eight were admitted to sanatoria and the remaining three were treated at home.

The age group five to forty-four years, included eight of the eleven cases, and two of the cases notified occurred in the fifty-five years and over groups. These two persons may have been unknowingly tuberculosic for many years. It is essential that every so-called chronic bronchitic and chronic asthmatic case should be reviewed by a Chest Physician and submitted to X-ray investigation.

CASES NOTIFIED AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

EBBW VALE, 1930—1960

TABLE 21

~~Occupational Incidence of Tuberculosis, 1960~~

Year		Population	Cases notified	Attack rate per 1,000	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000
1930	...	33,610	80	2.37	45	1.33
1931	...	31,695	71	3.12	29	1.04
1932	...	31,500	64	2.03	33	1.04
1933	...	31,120	59	1.89	28	0.89
1934	...	30,670	53	1.72	27	0.88
1935	...	30,190	57	1.88	30	0.99
1936	...	29,900	46	1.53	19	0.63
1937	...	29,850	61	2.04	33	1.11
1938	...	29,750	48	1.60	27	0.91
1939	...	29,910	65	2.17	30	1.00
1940	...	30,410	53	1.74	26	0.85
1941	...	31,130	58	1.85	30	0.96
1942	...	29,880	65	2.18	23	0.76
1943	...	29,030	47	1.61	23	0.79
1944	...	28,440	60	2.11	13	0.46
1945	...	28,000	56	1.99	19	0.68
1946	...	29,260	45	1.54	20	0.68
1947	...	29,140	32	1.10	20	0.68
1948	...	29,430	47	1.60	25	0.69
1949	...	29,440	45	1.53	19	0.85
1950	...	29,370	26	0.88	9	0.65
1951	...	28,760	30	1.05	5	0.31
1952	...	28,690	22	0.17	12	0.17
1953	...	28,520	18	0.63	7	0.24
1954	...	28,570	27	0.95	4	0.14
1955	...	28,420	40	1.41	6	0.21
1956	...	28,350	28	0.99	2	0.07
1957	...	28,350	16	0.56	2	0.07
1958	...	28,320	14	0.50	4	0.14
1959	...	28,230	14	0.50	4	0.14
1960	...	28,360	11	0.39	1	0.04

Occupational Incidence of Tuberculosis, 1960

Steelworker	...	...	...	3	Factory Worker (Clothing)	...	1
Housewife	...	...	...	3	Factory Worker (Foods)	...	1
Scholar	...	...	...	2	Fuel Technician	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS

1. Summary of Notifications received during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1960.

TABLE 22

		FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS													
		Primary notifications of new cases of tuberculosis													
		Age periods :													
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
Resp.	Males	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3
	Females	...	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Non-resp.	Males	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Females	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

2. New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by Formal Notification.

Source of information :		Number of cases in age groups													
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
Deaths returns from Local Registrar	Resp.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Death returns from Registrar-General (transferable) deaths	Non-resp.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Posthumous Notifications	Resp.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Non-resp.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

3. Deaths from Tuberculosis, 1960 — Age groups.

Age Groups :		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Total
Resp.	Males	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Non-resp.	Males	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Patients from this Area attend the Chest Clinics at Pentwyn House, Ebbw Vale Hospital, and at Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith. The figures shown in the tables below relate only to those patients seen at the Ebbw Vale Clinic.

The number of non-tuberculosis chest cases attending the Clinic, and being treated either at home or in hospital, is increasing steadily. In fact, the Clinic is becoming more of a Chest Clinic than a Tuberculosis Dispensary, and is dealing more and more with cases of bronchitis and asthma etc. This is stated by the Chest Physician.

Table 23 shows some increase in the number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic. It may be that eventually the Chest Clinic will become part of the local general hospital, and the Chest Physician will act there as Consultant.

Number of chest cases examined (including Home visits), i.e. new cases seen during the year ended 31st December, 1960	...	332
Number of attendances at the Clinic (including Home visits), i.e. new and old cases seen during the year ended 31st Dec., 1960	...	942

TABLE 23

Number of persons examined for the first time at the Ebbw Vale Clinic	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
(including Home visits ...	332	240	248	222	401
Total number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home visits) ...	942	881	1,222	1,256	1,312

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. s.172

This Sections deals with the removal to Hospital by means of application to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction by the Local Authority, of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

No action.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS

No action was taken under these Regulations in respect of persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

ADMISSIONS TO SANATORIA, 1960

TABLE 24

SANATORIUM	Cases Admitted	Transfers from other Sanatoria	Cases Discharged
Gelligaer 	2	—	3
Glan Ely 	2	—	2
Sully 	1	1	2
Talgarth 	5	1	1
Cefn Mably ...	1	—	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Cases admitted to isolation hospitals, 1960

Of the 174 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year—tuberculosis patients excepted—only four were admitted to Isolation Hospital. They were all dysentery cases, and the hospitals to which they were admitted were Allt-yr-yn Hospital, Newport (3), and Mardy Hospital, Merthyr (1).

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Analysis of Total Cases Notified

TABLE 25

DISEASE	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 — 2 years	2 — 3 years	3 — 4 years	4 — 5 years	5 — 10 years	10 — 15 years	15 — 20 years	20 — 25 years	25 — 35 years	35 — 45 years	45 — 65 years	Over 65 years	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet fever	3	3	6	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	10	4	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	—
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	1	7
Tuberculosis, other forms	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	15	12	27	1	2	1	4	3	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Dysentery	42	40	82	9	4	7	—	5	15	4	2	3	12	8	8	5	4
Food poisoning	13	16	29	—	4	3	—	—	2	3	—	5	5	3	4	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	89	85	174	11	11	12	5	8	34	13	4	9	22	15	18	12	12

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Ward Distribution

TABLE 26

DISEASE			Wards						TOTAL
			North	Badminton	N. Central	Central	S. Central	South	
Scarlet fever	...	...	1	—	1	3	1	—	6
Pneumonia	...	...	—	2	3	4	4	1	14
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	4	1	—	—	3	8
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Measles	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Whooping Cough			15	1	1	2	5	3	27
Erysipelas	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery	...	...	25	6	8	9	29	5	82
Food poisoning	...	...	17	1	1	5	3	2	29
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
			59	19	15	25	42	14	174

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(County Council Service)

There are three weekly child welfare clinics in the district—one at Cwm—one at Ebbw Vale, and one at Beaufort. The anti-natal clinics, where routine blood grouping and Rhesus factor tests are carried out, are held weekly at Ebbw Vale and fortnightly at Cwm.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

(County Council Service)

Five midwives, in the employ of the Monmouthshire County Council, practise in the district. Home nursing facilities are available to all necessitous cases, and employed in this respect are six whole-time district nurses.

HOSPITALS

(Regional Hospital Board Service)

There are two hospitals in the district—the Ebbw Vale General Hospital where both medical and surgical cases are treated, and the Rookery Maternity Hospital. All cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment have to be sent to isolation hospitals outside the area, there being no local facilities. When difficulties are experienced in obtaining a bed for a patient, the services of the Bed Bureau at Panteg are enlisted. Medical cases are also admitted to Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny. A County Assistant Medical Officer acted as Geriatrician and attempted to facilitate hospital admission.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

(County Council Service)

The ambulance services are controlled by the Monmouthshire County Council with the Control Centre at Caerleon. The local depot is situated at Tredegar.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(County Council Service)

The establishment of the Home Help Service as at 31st December, 1960, was 1 full-time and 52 part-time home helps. During the year 229 cases received assistance—maternity cases 1, chronic sick 131, miscellaneous 97. During 1959 the number of cases assisted was 240.

Increasing use is being made of this Service, the growth of which is nationwide, and since there will be more and more old people needing help, the need for this Service is likely to expand.

MEDICAL APPLIANCES SCHEME

(County Council Service)

The Monmouthshire County Council are responsible for the provision of appliances, e.g. air beds, air rings, etc., issued under this scheme. The Depots are staffed on a voluntary basis by members of the British Red Cross and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. Specimens, including milk, water and ice-cream samples are sent for bacteriological and pathological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Clytha Square, Newport. The chemical examination of water, and the estimation of atmospheric dust fall-out, as collected by the deposit gauges, are made by the Public Analyst in his private capacity.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, s.47

No action was taken by the Council under s.47 of the Act, which provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons who :—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic diseases, or, being aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Public cleansing during the year was maintained at its usual standard. In some areas collection was daily, in others twice weekly. Equipment in use being 1 moving floor Karrier; 5 Bantam side-load Karriers; 1 Karrier, dual tip lorry, and 1 mechanical Gully Cleanser. The Chaseside Loader has helped successfully to control tipping at the two official refuse disposal sites.

INDUSTRIES

Particulars of the basic industries of the district.

				Persons Employed
1.	Steam coal collieries	...	...	1,465
2.	Coke, coal and by-products	...	...	366
3.	Steel and Tinsplate works	...	...	9,580
4.	Brickmaking	...	...	106
5.	Quarries	...	...	109
	Staff (Nos. 2, 3, 4. 5)	...	...	1,040
	Total number of persons employed in the district	...	...	16,078
	Number of persons unemployed aged 15 years and over	...	...	220

CONCLUSION

I wish to express my complete satisfaction with the manner in which the Staff of the Public Health Department have carried out their work, work which has increased as a result of recent legislation; the keen interest displayed by Members of the Council, and the growing awareness of the General Public that a Health Department exists. More and more people visit this Office requesting the services provided by the willing and able members of the Department.

I would like to thank Members of the Council, fellow Officers, and the Staff of the Department for their generous co-operation.

THOMAS STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1960

—::—

Estimated population	...	..	...	28,360
Cases of Infectious Diseases notified	..	...	...	174
New Cases of Tuberculosis	...	..	...	11
Number of new houses erected during the year :—				
(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	78
(ii) By other persons	...	...	...	29
Number of Houses demolished	...	...	...	70

HOUSING

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

During 1960 very good progress was maintained and a substantial number of houses was completed. Work was also commenced on a further housing scheme for approximately 600 houses, and it is hoped that the building of the first 250 houses will start during 1961.

At the end of the year the number of housing applications remaining was 564, and of these 144 were from applicants who are the tenants of private houses. The number of families to be rehoused from sub-standard houses included in the slum clearance programme is 382.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

The progress made by the Local Authority in the provision of new houses during the year is shown below.

Site	No. of houses		Completed			Remaining
		in contract	1958	1959	1960	
Garnlydan, Part I	...	200	44	122	34	—
Garnlydan, Part II	...	194	25	115	40	14
Glyncoed	...	18	—	18	—	—
Brynteg Extension	...	60	—	—	4	56
		—	—	—	—	—
		472	69	255	78	70
		—	—	—	—	—

A contract for the roads and sewers for 250 houses was also let during 1960 and by the end of the year, the work was well advanced.

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

The slum clearance programme was maintained during the year and four more Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Orders involving 57 houses confirmed. A further 15 houses were dealt with by Demolition or Closing Orders.

The Local Authority also carried out extensive demolitions during the year of properties which had been the subject of Demolition Orders, and a total of 70 houses were demolished.

The total number of houses so far dealt with under slum clearance is shown below.

No. of houses in Clearance Area	...	...	...	147
Demolition or Closing Orders	...	...	...	274
Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	20
				<hr/>
				441
				<hr/>

There still remains a total of 382 houses to be dealt with under slum clearance, and it is hoped to complete this programme during the next five years.

HOUSING ACT, 1949

The Local Authority continue to take full advantage of the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, and the table below shows the loans and grants made up to the end of 1960.

Improvement Grants

(a) Number of Standard Improvement Grants	...	...	10
(i) Number of other Improvement Grants	...	...	100
(c) Amount of Standard Improvement Grants	...	...	£743
(d) Amount of other Improvement Grants	...	...	£19,165

Improvement Loans

(a) Number of Improvement Loans	...	...	...	48
(b) Amount of Improvement Loans	...	...	...	£8,411

By using, to the full, the powers granted to them under the Housing Acts, the Local Authority have improved the housing standards of the district to a considerable extent, and we look forward to the day when slum clearance and housing programmes are completed.

HOUSING, 1960

	Type of House			Number
1. Number of separate dwellings owned by the Local Authority on 31st December, 1960	...			
	Traditional	...	...	1,309
	Cornish Unit	...	...	194
	Gregory Flats	...	...	68
	Unity	...	...	30
	B:I.S.F.	...	...	154
	No Fines	...	...	585
	Bungalows (1 bed.)	...	...	13
				<hr/> 2,353 <hr/>

2. Total number of separate dwellings completed during the year ...	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
(i) By the Local Authority ...	78	255	135	79	219
(ii) By other persons ...	29	14	10	20	20
	<hr/> 107 <hr/>	<hr/> 269 <hr/>	<hr/> 145 <hr/>	<hr/> 99 <hr/>	<hr/> 239 <hr/>

3. Number of Local Authority dwellings in course of erection on 31st December, 1960	70
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

A. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year

1.	a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Act	...	...	527
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	684
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included in Sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	120
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	188
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...		120
4.		Number of dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	126

B. Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in respect of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	76
---	-----	-----	----

2.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

A. Proceedings under Sections 9 & 10 of the Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	—
2.	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—				
	(1) By the Owners	...	...	...	—
	(2) By the Local Authority in default	...	...	...	—

B. Proceedings under Sections 16 & 23 of the Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	13
2.	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders						70

C. Proceedings under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of Clearance Orders confirmed during 1960	...					57
2.	Number of houses included in Clearance Orders	...			...		—
3.	Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders confirmed, 1960	...					4
4.	Number of houses included in Compulsory Purchase Orders	...					57

D. Proceedings under Section 10 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953, or under Section 18 the Housing Act, 1957

1.	Number of Closing Orders made in respect of separate tenement or underground rooms	...	...	...	...		1
2.	Number of premises closed under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act	...	...	...	...		—
3.	Number of Closing Orders determined where premises have been made fit	...	...	...	...	...	—

E. Proceedings under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...				12
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—						
	(1) By Owners						
	(a) Before legal proceeding	...	...				9
	(b) After legal proceedings	...	...				—
	(2) By the Local Authority in default	...	...				3

F. Proceedings under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served	—
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

G. Proceedings under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936

1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	114
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—			
	(1) By Owners			
	(a) before legal proceedings	...	...	36
	(b) after legal proceedings	...	...	2
	(2) By the Local Authority in default	...	...	—

H. Proceedings under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936

Number of Notices served	—
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

I. Proceedings under Section 268 of the Public Health Act, 1936

Number of Notices served in respect of moveable dwellings	...	2
---	-----	---

J. Proceedings under the Rent Act, 1957

1.	Number of application for Certificates of Disrepair	...	10
2.	Number of Undertakings received	...	—
3.	Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	10

3.—HOUSING ACT, 1957. Part IV. OVERCROWDING

1. (a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	37
(b)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	82
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	287

2.	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	12
3. (a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	21
(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	89
4.	Particulars of cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to abate overcrowding	...	...	—

Summary of Inspections carried out during the Year under the Public Health Act, 1936

Sanitary accommodation, Cinemas, etc.	...	...	61
Drainage works	...	...	74
Public conveniences	...	...	72
Piggeries, etc.	...	...	16
Waterworks	...	...	12
Nuisances	...	...	298
Refuse disposal	...	...	27
Vermin	...	...	32
Offensive trades	...	...	12
Infectious diseases	...	...	232
Rats and mice infestation	...	...	1,282
Miscellaneous	...	...	181

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

Only seven properties had to be treated during the year. Methods employed in carrying out this work entail the use of D.D.T. smoke.

Satisfactory results were obtained in each instance.

Dwelling houses treated :—

Council houses	...	...	4
Private houses	...	...	3

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	(i) Local Authority	(ii) Dwelling houses(inc. Council Houses)	(iii) All other (including Business premises)	(iv) Total of cols.(i) (ii) and (iii)	(v) Agriculture
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's dist.	8	8002	340	8350	5
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Survey under the Act ...	5	684	97	786	5
(c) Otherwise ...	3	212	281	496	—
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major ...	—	6	—	6	—
Minor ...	4	155	9	168	2
(b) Mice Major ...	—	1	2	3	—
Minor ...	1	24	9	34	—
4. Number of infested properties (Sect. 4) treated by the L.A. ...	5	186	20	211	2
5. Number of notices served under s.4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e. proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
6. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under s.4 of the Act. ...	—	—	—	—	—
7. Legal proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ...	3	—	—	—	—

The above table gives details of the work carried out during the 12 months, 1st January to 31st December, 1960, dealing with infestation in various properties throughout the area.

The more heavily infested parts of the sewers were also treated on two occasions during the year and a total of 531 manholes were dealt with. The poisons used for both sewer and surface infestations were Warfarin, Arsenic and Zinc phosphide, and the bait used with these poisons being sausage rusk or bread crumbs. In all cases the treatment carried out proved to be very effective.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE ACT, 1954 and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

One slaughterhouse is registered under the above Act, and details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the area are as follows :

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	9	—	1	129	3	—
Number inspected ...	9	—	1	129	3	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

The bulk of the meat consumed in this area is killed in an adjoining area and the Local Authority contributes a proportion of the salary of the full-time meat inspector appointed in that area. This ensures that all meat consumed in the area is inspected at the time of slaughter by a qualified inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

and

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

The food premises in the area were visited regularly as also were all the canteens supplying cooked meals. A high standard of cleanliness was maintained in the canteens and improvements, to comply with the above-mentioned Regulations were carried out where necessary in the food shops. No Notices were served under the above-mentioned Regulations.

Sampling under the Food & Drugs Act is carried out in this area by Officers of the County Council. During the year the following samples were taken.

Milk—69; Other Foodstuffs—37. Total number of samples submitted for analysis—106.

The Public Analyst certified all samples to be genuine, with the exception of 1 sample of milk which contained .75% added water, the amount of deficiency being slight, no legal proceedings were taken.

Three informal samples of liqueur chocolates were found by the Public Analyst to contain no liqueur. Formal samples were taken and found to be genuine.

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, for this information.

Details of the inspections made during 1960 are given below :—

Premises	No. in Area	No. of Visits
Greengrocers	21	57
Butchers	32	128
Restaurants, cafes	10	120
Grocers	71	347
Fried Fish Shops	12	144
Bakehouses	1	2
Fresh Fish Shops	1	12
Canteens	7	28
Pie and Sausage Factory	1	12
Tripe Factory	1	12

The number of premises registered under s.16 (1.b) of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, together with the number of visits made, as shown below.

Number of premises ... 48. Visits made ... 421.

Premises registered under s.16 (a) are shown under the heading Ice-cream (heat-treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Given below is a summary of the foodstuffs condemned during the year.

Food Condemned					Amount
Meat	...	...	...	...	500 lbs.
Meat, tins	...	...	...	...	319
Cooked ham	...	...	...	...	90 lbs.
Fish, tins	...	...	...	...	53
Bacon	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	58 lbs.
Sausage, tins	...	...	...	...	1
Vegetables, tins	...	...	...	...	8
Soup, tins	...	...	...	...	35
Flour	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Meat and fish paste, jars	...	...	...	...	4
Rice pudding, tins	...	...	...	...	6
Tomatoes, tins	...	...	...	...	131
Fruit, tins	...	...	...	...	523
Jam	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Milk, condensed	...	...	...	...	—
Milk, evaporated	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Cereals	...	...	...	...	80 pkts.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	10 lbs.
Cream, tins	...	...	...	...	20
Chicken, tins	...	...	...	...	1
Sauce	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Spaghetti, tins	...	...	...	...	1

All condemned foods not returned through the wholesalers for salvage, are disposed of at the Local Authority's refuse tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

ICE-CREAM (HEAT-TREATMENT &c.) REGULATIONS, 1947

A total of 373 visits were paid to premises involved in the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream. A high standard of cleanliness was maintained throughout the year in each of the premises visited.

The following table shows the premises registered, the number of visits made, and the results of the bacteriological examination of samples of ice-cream.

Premises registered for :—

Sale, Manufacture and storage ...	9.	Visits made ...	95.
Sale only ...	105.	Visits made ...	283.

Total number of ice-cream samples taken ... 55.

Results :—	Grade 1	...	49
	Grade 2	...	—
	Grade 3	...	4
	Grade 4	...	2

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949-1954

MILK (Special Designation) REGULATIONS, 1949-1954

MILK (Special Designation) SPECIFIED AREA ORDER, 1954

As this Area is a designated area under the Milk (Special Designation) Specified Area Order, 1954, only bottled, pasteurised or heat-treated, milk is sold in the area.

During the year 70 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Newport. All of the samples were found to be satisfactory.

Number of dairies registered	...	...	24
Number of inspections made	...	...	65

LICENSED PREMISES

The standard of cleanliness in Licensed premises was found to be very good in most cases, but it was found necessary to serve Notices in sixteen instances requiring the cleansing of cellar walls, or for other defects, found on inspection, to be remedied.

The number of Licensed premises in the District is given below.

Public Houses	...	...	...	28
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	17
				45

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

All factories in the area were regularly inspected, and in most cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Details of the work carried out are shown in the following tables.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the

Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on register (a)	Inspections (b)	No. of Written Notices (c)	Occupiers Prosecuted (d)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ...	3	22	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which s.7 is enforced by the Loc- al Authority ...	42	95	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which s.7 is enforc- ed by the Local Authority (exclud- ing outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	45	117	1	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred :		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	—	—	—

PART VIII of the ACT — OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nil

CARAVAN SITES

There are two licensed caravan sites in the area, one of them being a private site licensed for five caravans, and the other belonging to the Local Authority. This site contains hard stands for ten caravans, each caravan having a separate water point and drainage, and a block of five water closets has been erected for their use. The site is in great demand, with a waiting list for any vacancy which occurs.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The atmospheric pollution is very severe in some parts of the Area, particularly those areas near the blast furnaces, Bessemer, Open Hearth furnaces, lime crushing plant and the coke ovens. It has been noted, however, that there has been a slight improvement over the past few years, but there is still a long way to go before the results are satisfactory. The major problems are the emission of ferrous oxide fumes from the Bessemer vessels, and grit and fumes from the coke ovens.

However, one Bessemer vessel has recently been converted to the L.D. process and an electrostatic precipitator installed to deal with that furnace only. Another furnace will be converted in the near future and connected to the same precipitator, but the remaining two vessels will still present a problem.

A summary of the results obtained on examination of the matter collected in the deposit gauges is given in the following table. It will be noted that the figures relate to the total monthly deposits in tons per square mile.

			Monthly Deposit — tons per sq. mile				
Gauge No.	...	...	D.2449	D.2450	D.2451	D.2452	D.2453
Sited at	...	...	Upper Carno Reservoir	Co-op. Stores Bethcar St. Ebbw Vale	Apprentices School Victoria	Pit-head Baths Waunlwyd	Co-op. Stores Canning St. Cwm
JANUARY	...	...	7.84	24.37	64.80	44.69	26.41
FEBRUARY	...	...	7.08	27.21	44.26	41.02	18.34
MARCH	...	...	11.93	22.04	57.46	32.55	16.44
APRIL	...	...	9.03	25.07	71.30	37.08	20.37
MAY	...	...	5.50	30.28	37.88	44.46	17.91
JUNE	...	...	8.51	13.41	46.86	28.68	13.77
JULY	...	...	7.14	18.44	51.20	33.45	12.51
AUGUST	...	...	9.17	24.38	117.46	39.32	21.05
SEPTEMBER	...	...	10.60	26.31	60.86	34.79	17.75
OCTOBER	...	...	6.07	23.21	74.94	37.35	17.60
NOVEMBER	...	...	20.98	37.89	85.01	43.99	26.01
DECEMBER	...	...	9.94	16.44	39.62	28.84	21.08

Estimation of Sulphur by the Lead Peroxide Method

Summary of results, 1960

Amount collected by 100 sq.cms. of Lead Peroxide (m.gms.)						
Site of Apparatus :	January	February	March	April	May	June
PARK ROAD	1.45	1.33	2.09	1.10	1.61	1.13
	July	August	September	October	November	December
GARDEN CITY						
EBBW VALE	0.96	0.82	2.06	2.09	0.96	1.11

RAINFALL

Month	Inches	No. of Days
January	7.42	20
February	7.41	21
March	3.47	14
April	5.55	14
May	2.69	11
June	3.03	13
July	6.11	22
August	5.24	21
September	6.91	17
October	10.64	19
November	15.66	26
December	9.19	24
	<u>83.32</u>	<u>222</u>

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the area is derived from two Reservoirs, Upper and Lower Carno, on the Llangynidr Moors, and these are supplemented by two electrical pumping stations on the Claisfer Stream in an adjoining valley. Both reservoirs are equipped with a set of roughing filters together with a number of open filter beds, and after passing through these filters the water is chlorinated.

The use of lead piping on supplies for human consumption is forbidden, so the risk of contamination by lead is reduced to a minimum. The water is conveyed to the Town, and to the Blaina Urban District, by means of cast iron gravitated mains. The supply is, on the whole, adequate and satisfactory, but shortages do occur during periods of prolonged drought. An additional source of water is, therefore, required, as during such periods of drought, restrictions on supply have to be imposed.

Routine tests of the water is carried out by the Waterworks personnel and the Staff of the Surveyor's Department. These tests include daily chlorine tests, and monthly pH and silica tests. Details of all samples of water taken from the Reservoirs, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, are given in the following table. The results of the chemical examination of water samples are also shown. In all a total of 79 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and 4 for chemical analysis. The chemical analyses are carried out by Messrs. G. Rudd Thompson & Partners, Ltd., of Dock Street, Newport.

WATER SAMPLES

	RESERVOIRS		SPRINGS, &c.		TOTAL
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Bacteriological examination of :					
(i) Raw water	6	19	—	—	25
(ii) Treated water	49	5	—	—	54
	55	24	—	—	79
Chemical examination of :					
(i) Raw water	4	—	—	—	4
(ii) Treated water	—	—	—	—	—
	4	—	—	—	4

Reservoirs—Capacity

	Upper Carno	Lower Carno
Maximum capacity, gallons	... 68,000,000	176,000,000
Average storage capacity held	... 59,000,000	160,000,000
Claisfer—Maximum output of pumping station :— 1,500,000 galls. per day.		

WATER CONSUMPTION

1st April to 31st March—1956 to 1961

Year	1956/1957	1957/1958	1958/1959	1959/1960	1960/1961
Domestic Supply	426,709,577	484,463,263	424,348,750	412,422,525	468,419,000
Blaina U.D.C.	180,300,000	174,440,000	169,914,000	170,627,000	180,096,000
Trade (Ebbw V.)	70,636,423	71,504,737	74,097,250	79,017,475	82,158,000
TOTALS	677,646,000	730,408,000	668,360,000	662,067,000	730,673,000

SWIMMING BATHS

The necessity for a Swimming Bath in this Area has been obvious to the Local Authority, and to the public, for many years, and some progress was made during the year towards providing this amenity.

An indoor Swimming Bath, costing over £200,000, is now under construction, and will be completed by the end of 1962.

The Swimming Bath, when completed, will measure 110ft. x 42ft., with the depth varying from 3ft. at the shallow end to 12ft. 8ins. at the deep end. There will be 47 changing cubicles provided for men and 25 for women, with a total capacity of 800 baskets.

The purification of the water will be carried out by two horizontal pressure filters together with chlorination. There will also be provision for the heating of the water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The very few properties remaining not connected to the sewer system are so far from the system as to make conversion quite impracticable.

The area is served by the Western Valley trunk sewer with a main sea out-fall at Newport, whilst surface water is collected in a separate sewer system draining to the River Ebbw. The drainage system is, therefore, mainly satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — DISINFECTION

Disease			Cases Notified	Number of disinfections carried out
Scarlet fever	...	...	6	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	11	19

With regard to the tuberculosis cases shown above, disinfections were carried out after death, or after admission of patients to sanatoria. The premises vacated by families rehoused by the Local Authority because of tuberculosis, were also disinfected.

A. STOKES

Chief Public Health Inspector.

